

MINUTES

LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION (LRC) ENERGY POLICY ISSUES

COMMITTEE MEETING

April 18, 2012

Senator Goolsby

I would like to commend the chair. We appreciate your leadership in this issue. These are the meetings that I have made sure to attend every one of them and cut time out of my schedule just to be here. They have been enlightening; I particular remember the one where we had the folks from Pennsylvania that explained to us, when we had the Piedmont Natural Gas folks telling us that if can harvest five plus multi-trillion cubic feet of natural gas right off our coast, we can bring it right into North Carolina and distribute it immediately with the currently existing infrastructure. Those kinds of things, as we are starting to pay \$4 a gallon for gasoline, realizing that the equivalent gas, if we used compressed natural gas, would be \$1.38—the last notes that I have seen—per gallon. It is an incredible savings; and as North Carolina continues, at this point, being one of the highest tech states in the southeast, and we have to bribe business to come do business here, as we have seen over the last couple of years, to think that we have energy independence and we could actually bring businesses to this state with our own energy, and hopefully at a much lower rate than the other states around us, because we are energy independent and can actually be there offering real incentives that aren't giving away our tax dollars, but really incentivizing people to come here and do business because of low energy costs, that is what's going to help revive our economy. I just appreciate your leadership, all of the good work done by Dr. Warren and all the staff to bring all these things forward to have real meaningful discussions and meaningful committee meetings. It has just been a pleasure and it is my pleasure to be here today and I know I probably speak for most of the other committee members if not all of us, it has been a pleasure to be here and a pleasure to be involved in this cutting-edge policy that is going to help bring us into this new century and really make North Carolina a place that is energy independent, in and of itself, which means a lot right now and in our future going forward and building our economy back.